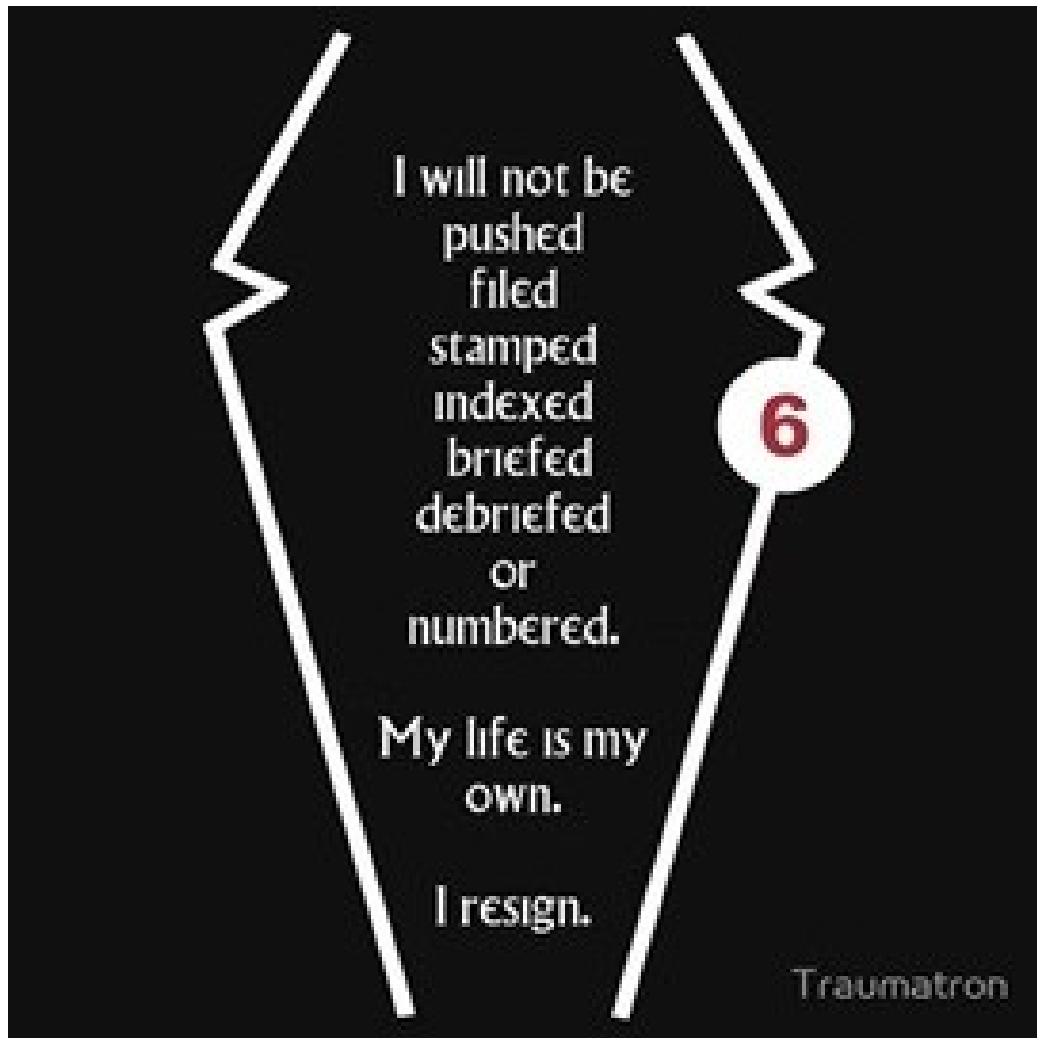


# The Gnostic and Occult Symbolism of The Prisoner Show from 1967



By Julian French

Watch the opening here then read on for an explanation of it: [The Prisoner Opening Theme](#)

The first scene in the opening are thunder clouds and thunder represents something that comes from above and into this world. The Gnostic book called, the Thunder; the Perfect Mind, has that meaning and it is being repeated here. The car that the main character drives has the letters Kar on it. These letters represent the [Ka](#) from the ancient Egyptian religion and that represents the soul, what the ancient Egyptians called the vital spark. Perhaps the 120C could represent 33, because the 1 and 2 add to 3 and C is the third letter of the alphabet, but that is speculation, although there are some apparent Masonic references in this series. The 33, if that's what is intended here, represents death and rebirth, being the age at which Jesus died, and that is what's about to happen to the main character here.



He goes down a tunnel, that looks like the sort of tunnel that leads to tombs in ancient Egypt. The tunnel has the words, "way out" on the doors

on the entrance of it. This is the way out of the Underworld he is going

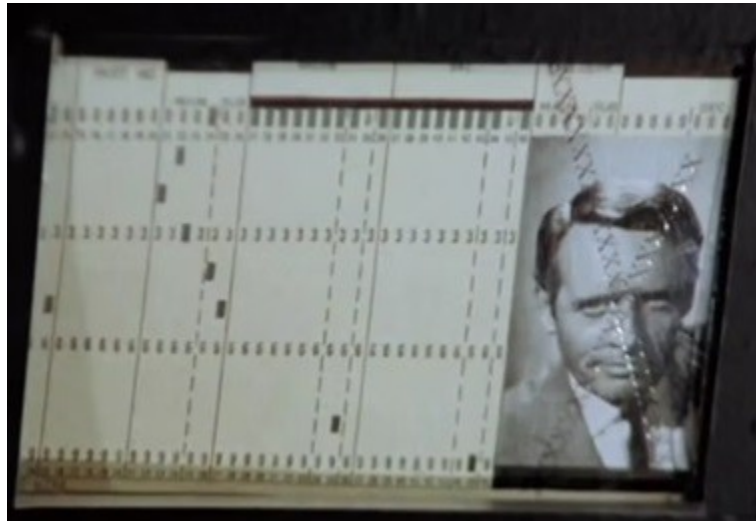


into.

At the bottom of this tunnel is the boss of the organization he is quitting. The man has a map of the world behind him, this represents the physical world, and this man is the god of this world, or the Demiurge as the Gnostics called this god. The main character will become a prisoner in the Demiurge's world.



The X that is over his face and made up of X's represent death, and this applies to what this series is about.



The last part is very interesting. A man arrives in a hearse to put sleeping gas through the main character's door. The hearse represents the death and the sleep that the main character will experience, as well as being carried to the village that represents the soul entering this world. Death and sleep go together as this [page](#) mentions. The name St. Mary on the bin may have a symbolic representation as well, this series has a religious metaphor to it.



In the first episode the character, who's called Number 6, wakes up in this village that he will be imprisoned in. There's a great scene here where he

goes to a shop and asks the shop keeper for a map. The shopkeeper shows him a map of the village and then Number 6 asks for a bigger map, to which the shopkeeper gives him a bigger map of the village. He was wanting a map of the larger area so he can escape, but there is not larger area, there is only the village, and he cannot escape from it. In the same way people in real life cannot escape from the world they are born into, which is a very Gnostic concept.

The [number 6 in numerology](#) represents man and it also represents man as an animal. That's a perfect name for the main character in this series and what he represents in it. The number of the boss of this village is called [Number 2](#), which represents all the polarities of the physical world. Number 2 is a prisoner, is a prisoner like everyone else in the village and he is answerable to Number 1.

This scene card that "Welcome home from is lost from home of the and now in this Episode two Prodigal Son theme that lot of occult songs.



shows a says, to your home". He his original real world has a home prison. calls him a and this is a appears in a shows and



The All-Seeing Eye makes appearances in numerous places in this series. In this scene it appears in this episode about an election in the village. This village is a democracy and not authoritarian, but is full of ignorant, entrapped people are trapped in their restricted reality.

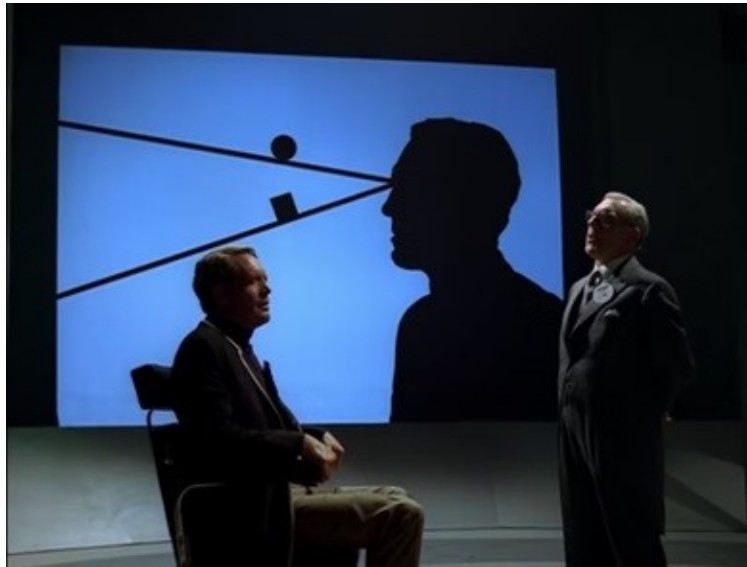


The symbolism of the square and circle are important in the occult. The square represents the Earth, and the circle represents the spirit. In this scene, they enter into this third eye and then he gets knocked out. He is a



merger of both, while he is unconscious, and this is what he represents in this prison.

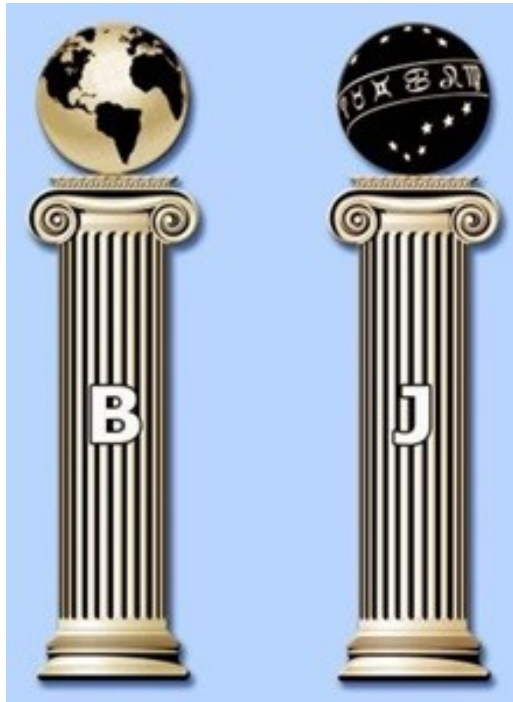
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interesting  
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room has an  
setup. On  
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constellations. In the middle is a moving eye that goes around in circles over a map of the prison. In Masonic lodges, there are two pillars, on one pillar is the Earth and on the other pillar is the sky. This represents the world, or as above, so below.





The last episode is very hard to understand for anyone who hasn't figured out that this series is a Gnostic metaphor. This [Wikipedia](#) page mentions that most of its fans were left wondering about what was going on in this episode. The last episode becomes clear if people can identify the symbolism used here.

Number 6 has overcome the hardest test and he has maintained his individuality while in prison. Number 1 is inside a rocket and there is an eyeball underneath the number on it. Number 1 in Numerology represents the soul and it represents God. This is the All-Seeing Eye.



Behind the judge who's called The President are people with black and white masks on who have names of various ideologies and sectors of



society in front of them. Their masks represent Yin and Yang, they are of this world, and they control society. Every time Number 6 tries to speak, they all interrupt him and this represents that society with all its sectors interrupt the individuality of the individual.



The scene where he meets Number 1 is lost on most people, but it has the most important meaning in the series. Number 1 shows Number 6 a crystal ball showing him with his face been put behind bars in the village, like what is shown at the end. Number 6 drops that crystal ball and then he begins to unmask Number 1. The crystal ball represents the insight he is getting and now he will see the identity of the one he has been searching for. The first mask is the Yin and Yang symbol which represents the world. It can also represent the two sides of the brain. The second gorilla mask represents the animal nature of Man. The human face is the soul and when that is revealed, he goes up into the nose of the rocket and closes the hatch so Number 6 can't follow him. Number 1 in numerology represents the soul and God and Number 6 has uncovered the soul underneath the Yin and Yang of this world and underneath the animal. When the soul is uncovered, it can rise up into the sky, which is what happens at the end. He has been liberated and can rise up into the Heavens.

The main character of this series, Patrick McGoochan, [stated in 1977](#) that Number 1 represented himself, "No. 1 was depicted as an evil, governing force in this Village. So, who is this No. 1? We just see the No. 2's, the sidekicks. Now this overriding, evil force is at its most powerful within ourselves and we have constantly to fight it, I think, and that is why I made No. 1 an image of No. 6. His other half, his alter ego."



The village gets evacuated and Number 6 escapes with some other village residents, including the butler and Number 2 from early on in the series. The door on Number 6's real house closes automatically, just like in his house in the village, which is saying the real world is like the village. This goes back to the first episode, where he was asking for the bigger map. There is no outside this village.